September 10, 1948

Mr. Thomas L. Gatke,
President,
Gatke Corporation,
228 N. La Salle Street,
Chicago 1, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Gatke: Re: Saranac Asbestos Experiments

Your concern as to the results of Dr. Gardner's experiments, to which the members of the asbestos textile group contributed such a substantial sum, is quite understandable. Please do not feel that I have neglected to follow the matter since Dr. Gardner's death.

As you will recall, I had been pressing Dr. Gardner for a final report for a period of approximately two years before his death, only to be met with the very valid plea that he was overworked and under-staffed because of his inability to obtain or retain qualified men during the war.

Since Dr. Gardner's death Dr. A. J. Vorwald has succeeded him as Director of Research at Saranac Laboratory and Dr. Lanza (now retired from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company) has become a Trustee of the Trudeau Foundation. Through their good offices the mass of data on the completed experiments has been analyzed by Dr. Lynch of South Carolina and we anticipate a report will be forthcoming eventually and, we hope, shortly.

Dr. Lynch has completed his work and Dr. Vorwald has been even more dilatory about putting the report in final form than was Dr. Gardner before him, and with considerably less excuse. Under date of June 14th Dr. Vorwald wrote us as follows:

> "The delay in completing the monograph on asbestosis is no less disturbing to us than it is to you. We appreciate its urgency for guidance in the solution of problems pertaining to your workers. Every effort is being made by us to bring it to conclusion. Believe me, however, it is a monumental task. The data of all the studies and observations

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made by us during the past number of years is voluminous. It is not easy to collate it and digest it for purposes of a monograph that might serve as a basis for guidance. Therefore, as you imply, it must be factual and not conjectural.

For more than a year prior to this time, in response to repeated requests, we had received repeated assurances from Dr. Vorwald that the monograph would be ready within a matter of weeks.

From the foregoing you will see there are grounds for anticipating that the final report will be forthcoming in the not too distant future.

With personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Vandiver Brown,
Secretary.

VB:y

cc J.P.Woodard